



Drayton Chronicle

July 2022

Jubilee Celebrations

Village news

Drayton's wild flower meadows

CHRONICLE INFORMATION

The next **Drayton Chronicle** will be the **August 2022** issue edited by: **Tony Holmes (531180)**

Archive copies of the Chronicle are available on the Drayton website: www.draytonvillage.co.uk The current copy will be available on or near the same date that printed copies are distributed.

NOTES for CONTRIBUTORS

Contributions to and advertisements in the Chronicle are most welcome. Please be sure always to include your name, address and (in case clarification is necessary) telephone number. Without names we will usually not print an item at all.

However, please also note that the editor has to ensure that each Chronicle fits exactly into an even number of printed pages. The editor therefore reserves the right to place, edit, shorten or even reject contributions as required.

A contribution or advertising request can be sent to us in one of three ways:

email to editor@draytonchronicle.net

Your contributions should either be embedded in your email as plain text or attached as a rich-text or Microsoft Word document!

Requests for advertisements should be emailed not to the editor but to advertising@draytonchronicle.net Please note that advertisements eventually need to be in Word format, 9cms wide and, for a single block advert, about 4.5cms high. Please head your email and label any attachments with a name distinctive to you, not just 'Chronicle'. Also, make sure the editor or advertising manager acknowledges your email within 2 or 3 days.

If you cannot send your contribution by email, send us a good quality paper version, using fairly large, simple black typescript, without underlining on white paper, A4 or smaller.

Finally, we do accept hand-written items. However, in this case please write the names of people and places in capital letters. This does save a lot of mistakes.

Paper contributions should be either placed in the Chronicle letter box (outside Vickery's shop on Drayton Green) or posted to Vickery's at 5 The Green, Drayton, Abingdon, OX14 4JA.

After the deadlines listed at the top of this page, only urgent items will be considered for inclusion and then only if emailed directly to the editor by the Wednesday following the deadlines at the latest.

Editor

Key dates for next Chronicles

Issue	Deadlines for contributions		Printed Chronicles available on:
	Adverts	Editor	
August	15th July	18th July	29th July
Sept.	12th Aug	15th Aug	26th Aug

Charge for a single Block Advert (about 9cms x 4.5cms)

---- Number of Inserts ----

Advertiser Category:	1	3	6	12
Drayton Resident	£6.00	£16.00	£31.00	£60.00
Non-Drayton Resident	£7.00	£19.00	£37.00	£72.00

Double-size adverts are charged at twice the above rates.

All advertising **MUST** be paid for up-front, either in cash or via a cheque made payable to 'The Drayton Chronicle' and placed in the box at or sent to Vickery's.

Requests for advertisements should (preferably) be emailed to Stephen Fearnley, the Chronicle's Advertising Manager, at advertising@draytonchronicle.net or placed in the box at Vickery's. If you wish to discuss your requirements, please phone Stephen on 01235 531347

FIRST TUESDAY CONNECTIONS

Are you feeling lonely, isolated or in need of some friendly company? If so, join us for our monthly tea and chat afternoons in the Church. The meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month 2-30 to 4-00pm. and you can be sure of a warm welcome. The next two meetings will be 5th July and 2nd August. If you would like a chat with a friendly, sympathetic voice, or to join us, please call **Beryl** on **513379** or **Ros** on **535589**.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Church Secretary: Mrs Jayne Henderson...Tel: 522161



Please refer to the Church Noticeboard for details of future services.

Baptist Coffee Shop: Please join us on Thursday mornings 11am-1pm at the **Caudwell Centre**, Gravel Lane for Tea or Coffee and a chat.

LOCAL METHODIST WORSHIP



High Street, Milton

Sunday Service: 10:30 am

Contacts: Geoff or Jean Caudle. Tel: 531409

DAMASCUS Parish article

A few weeks ago, my daughter was teaching a group of students map reading skills as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award. Much to her surprise, one of the students suggested taking a short cut across some private land, saying it would be alright as long as they didn't get caught. It was the first time she had encountered this attitude, and wondered if the young people were unconsciously picking up the current confusion in our political leadership.

Why does it matter that people in power tell the truth and keep the rules they've made for everyone else? Why do some of us find it difficult to forget the scandals and move on? Is it because we recognise that something much deeper is being questioned? As a country, we have taken for granted many values that hold our society together: truth, integrity, fair play, justice, and compassion towards those in need. Could we find ourselves unable to move on because alarm bells are going off? If the people in power exempt themselves from the values that hold together the common good, they are eroding the bonds of trust placed in them and their office.

In his sermon at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Archbishop Stephen Cottrell said, *'The best leaders ... are those ... who lead for others not themselves. People whose hearts desire is to serve the common good.'* He was, of course, praising the Queen for her dedication in serving the country and commonwealth. She has often told us that she is sustained by her Christian faith and has said, *'For me, the life of Jesus Christ ... is an inspiration and an anchor in my life.'* Jesus had some challenging words about leadership for his disciples: *Whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be the servant of all* (Mark 10:43-44).

Let's pray for those in leadership, whether in our workplace, different levels of government and businesses as well as in our recreational activities so that we all may live quiet and peaceful lives.

Meg Heywood.
Associate Minister, DAMASCUS Parish.

ST PETER'S CHURCH, DRAYTON part of the DAMASCUS Parish

www.damascusparish.org.uk

Rector	Revd Helen Kendrick	01235 848297
Associate Priest	Revd Meg Heywood	01235 537100
Associate Priest	Revd Rosie Bruce	07707 087131
Pro-Warden	Mrs Linda Johnson	01235 527521
Pro-Warden	Mrs Val Cross	01235 535183

The church remains open daily, Sunday – Saturday 10– 4.

(Note change in opening times)

REGULAR SERVICES.

Sunday	8.00 am	Holy Communion on 2 nd Sunday of the month only.
Sunday	9.45 am	Holy Communion (CW) , except 4 th Sunday non– Eucharist Morning Praise is held
Thursday	9.45 am	Holy Communion (1 st and 3 rd Thursdays) ,Celtic Morning Prayer (2 nd and 4 th Thursdays)

Sunday 24th July. 9.45 a.m Morning Praise – said, then 4.00- 5.00 p.m all are welcome for cream teas!

This will be followed by Songs of Praise! It would be lovely if you are able to join us!

Sunday 31st July NO SERVICE AT ST PETER'S.

DAMASCUS parish Service at Appleford at 9.30a.m

PARISH REGISTER

No entries for this month,

REGULAR EVENTS

Wednesday mornings 10.00 – 11.30a.m **Pebbles Baby and Toddler Group.**

If you have a baby or toddler you would be so welcome to join us. We meet in Church.

Please email: suedraytonpebbles@outlook.com for more information or visit our Drayton Pebbles Facebook Page.

YOU STAY WE PRAY, JUNE 2022

26th June – 2nd July Drayton Road; Milton Road; New Cut Mill; Fish-er Close; Marcham Road; Meads Close; Rip-ping-ton Court; Stone Hill

3rd – 9th July Steventon Road; Kiln Lane; Mott Cottages; Barton Court

10th-16th July Eastway; Eastway MHP

17th – 23rd July Church Lane; Henleys Lane; Caudwell Close; Gravel Lane

24th- 31st July Abingdon Road; Oday Hill;



Drayton Wildlife Group

We hope everyone has enjoyed the changing flowers in our wildflower patch on Hilliat Fields as much as we have.

Thanks to everyone helped us in the winter with the hard work, removing the turf and planting seeds, and to Oh so Lucy for donating the beautiful sign 'Excuse the weeds we are feeding the bees'.

It has been a joy to watch from early spring when our first single snowdrop appeared. Since then we have seen corncockle, corn marigold, common poppy, corn chamomile, white campion, cornflower and scentless chamomile (the white, daisy like flowers).

This beautiful display was created using the Cornfield Jewels* seed mix recommended by the conservation charity Plantlife. These are the flowers that were once commonly seen in our cornfields, as they are mainly annuals, growing on freshly disturbed soil, such as a newly ploughed field.



The bees have quickly found the new supply of nectar and have been busy buzzing from poppy to cornflower.

Don't forget, though, that truly wild flowers are incredibly valuable to insects and other wildlife, and are beautiful, too. The grass alongside the wildflower patch, which was not seeded but has, thankfully, been allowed to grow long, is full of magnificent tall rough hawksbeards, as well as daisies, buttercups, goatsbeard and cow parsnip, all valuable sources of nectar to pollinators as well as food plants to the larvae of numerous insects. Long grass, too, is essential for insects such as grasshoppers, and a food plant for butterfly larvae such as Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Ringlet and Speckled



Along with the annuals, a mix of perennials, including common Bird's-foot trefoil, meadow buttercup, red campion, oxeye daisy, knapweed, black medick, ribwort plantain, selfheal, yellow rattle, yarrow, common sorrel, common vetch, and red clover was sown. These should appear next year, when most of the annuals from the patch will disappear, with the more subtle but still beautiful perennials taking centre-stage. Not all will come up, only those which thrive on our soil type, which in Hilliat Fields tends to be a heavy clay. I have planted the same mixture in my own garden in Hilliat Fields, and the main successes have been red and white champions, bird's foot trefoils, red clovers, common vetch and oxeye daisy, with corncockles continuing from the annuals mix – shown here, now in their third year.



This follows the natural progression that would occur in a wildflower meadow. If we want to see the poppies and cornflowers return next year, we will need to seed a new patch with the annuals mix.

We hope this winter to expand the patch further, the more helpers we have the bigger we can make it, so do look out in the autumn for dates when we will need diggers, tea makers and seed planters.

Before then we plan to have a day litter picking on xxxxx we will meet at the wildflower patch on Hilliat Fields and make our way along Spotting wildlife and picking litter as we go. Last year on the verge along Drayton road towards Abingdon we saw Common Bird's Foot Trefoil, Meadow Vetchling, Bush Vetch, Pyramidal Orchid, Bee Orchid, Oxeye Daisies, a host of meadow brown butterflies and a rare hornet moth – what will we find this year?

**The annual mix was Cornfield Jewels, the perennial mix was Meadow Maker Plus, both available from Plantlife Shop, but please be aware that these are not for planting in the wild. As the patch we planted was on a housing estate, we decide that it was OK to plant there, as it is not near any truly wild land.*

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Bee Orchid, Pyramidal Orchid, Meadow Brown, Bush Vetch, Hornet Moth, Meadow Vetchling.

Article and photos by **Andrew and Juliet Savage**

The Abingdon DAMASCUS Youth Project
Registered Charity 1098966



Youth & Community Acting Together

Firstly, we have some thanks to give, a huge thank you to everyone who stopped by and got involved with our stall at the Village Fete, we had a great time chatting and playing for the day! Also, thank you to those families that got involved with the races and games during the Jubilee celebration in the village and donating, we are always appreciative of the support from the community.



The Drop-in sessions have been blessed with good weather meaning for the majority of the time we are spending it outdoors playing some team games such as

rounders, football and cricket. This has been great to explore the way we communicate during games and being able to push not only ourselves but our team mates to perform at their very best! Some of the discussion-based activities have been looking at our thoughts, feelings and the world around us to compliment the great team work going on outside, they have been particularly focussing on emotion and how people show theirs alongside lots of fun 'Would you Rather' questions.

The ADYP Team – Roxy Elford, Jake Fleetwood and James Quartermain, Emily Astley-Madge

Do contact any of us on jamesq.ycat@gmail.com, jakef.ycat@gmail.com, roxy.ycat@gmail.com, emily.adyp@gmail.com

Tel: 01235 848694 or 07875649008



GARD is a local community group formed to campaign against Thames Water's proposals to build a reservoir south-west of Abingdon.

Abingdon Reservoir – Latest from GARD

The GARD AGM was well attended with some great discussion and ideas to support our campaigns planned for summer and autumn – thank you to all that came.

A "Water Summit" has been scheduled by Oxfordshire County Council in Oxford for 11 June. GARD will be co-chairs and the summit will seek to form a unified response from all levels of local community, environmental and political opinion.

We will share how you can watch the summit (and perhaps even join) via video link once details are confirmed.

WRSE Draft Regional Plan consultation – WRSE's response to all the comments made on the plan are anticipated 20 May; we will keep you posted.

WRSE have commented (but TBC) that the significant Oxfordshire response (almost 20% of responses across the whole South-east) could weigh heavily in the way the plan develops.

Thanks again to all those who responded, we were copied into approx. 200 individual responses.

In the meantime for further information, updates, contact details or to join GARD visit:

www.gard-oxon.org.uk,

Facebook: @abingdonreservoir

Twitter: @GARD_OXON



Dear Editor,

I now live in Australia having been in Drayton recently, visiting my mother, Connie Harrington, I enjoyed reading the article in the June issue that included a photo of the Drayton County Primary Football Team of 1973.

Coincidentally I was at the primary school during those years and had fun trying to guess the names of the team members. It got me searching some of the family albums to see if I could find any other school occasion photos. I came up with these two which are from when I was the 'Attendant' to the May Queen Vinita Leighly. I wonder if some current Drayton residents are able to identify some of the other youngsters in the picture. I am sorry about the flash bulb mark in the photo (it happened in those days!).

I remember when the Drayton Chronicle's first edition was published and it is so good to see it is still going strong. Well done to all involved.

Regards,

Sarah-Jane Harrington

Email: sarah-jane.harrington@indigoshire.vic.gov.au

PS. I am not sure if that is the right spelling for Vinita and I understand she still lives in the village.



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 Steak & Ale Pie served with mash, garden peas & gravy
 Pork loin with creamy mushroom sauce served with chips & garden peas.

Desserts

Sticky toffee pudding served with custard or Ice cream.
 Hot Chocolate Brownie served with ice cream.



July Report

Scams—Beware

Scamming has become increasingly common in recent years. COVID has given Scammers many new opportunities and it seems that our ability to tackle the problem is permanently lagging behind the ingenuity/criminality of the scammers. Most financial institutions have improved their security often seemingly at the expense of the customer's convenience and ease of use. Security phone calls and messages and an extra layer of complication to even the simplest of financial transactions. Until our systems have worked out how to trace Scammers, we are stuck with the system as it is. It is now more important than ever that we protect the vulnerable and our family and friends from Scamming and other types of sharp practice.

My recent experience has taught me that it is not only the elderly and vulnerable who can be very easily scammed. I have discovered the hard way that obtaining an "ESTA" form for foreign travel is open to such sharp practice.

The first contact details that appear on a Google search for ESTAs all appear to be bona fide government websites with all the official logos. When contacted, the applicant is invited to fill in a form (name, DOB, passport number etc) and an official ESTA will be returned in a couple of days. All for a charge of somewhere between £120-150 per ESTA. What you are not told is that they are transferring the information to an official government ESTA service form – a form that is no more complex than the one you have just completed and sent it in to the official government ESTA-issuing authority. It costs them (in my case) \$14 for this non-service. In other words they have pocketed well done over £100 for doing something you can do for yourself.

I am still to explain to my wife why our visit to the US to greet our new grandchild has cost £280 more than intended.

20mph initiative

There has never been an Oxfordshire County Council initiative more popular than the installation of 20mph zones in any village or town that wants it. True, there some hoops that have to be gone through to qualify, but the process is straightforward. I am not aware of anyone who has failed. It would be a brave politician who tried to unravel or challenge the initiative now.

I have received a couple of enquiries asking exactly what is the justification for this initiative. It's a fair question, so here is my attempt to answer it. Obviously safety is the overriding justification. All Councils are trying to get people out of cars and make walking and cycling a more attractive and less risky option.

The chances of death or serious injury are drastically reduced as speeds reduce from 30-20mph. With increasing numbers of electric cars, any concerns that 20mph produces more pollution are becoming less persuasive. Enforcement is an issue, but the safety benefits increase every 1mph reduction in traffic speeds. If some drivers are determined to drive at 30mph in a 20mph zone, other people are safer than if the same driver drives at 35mph in a 30mph zone. In other words, enforcement, in my view, should never stop us introducing speed limits. Every life saved, every injury less severe is progress.

Much will be happening in the autumn with decisions on the Reservoir and major local road building. So, wishing everyone a good holiday, free of Covid and, if possible free of travel disruption.

Richard Webber Cllr

Tel: 01235534001

Suzy Willis & Associates

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The victorious Drayton Wasps Team (North Berkshire Cup Winners) after a 25 year drought!



Preparation for the new season has resumed. We train every Tuesday at 6:30pm down at the Drayton Recreational Ground, Lockway, OX14 4LF. Please pop along if you're interested in getting involved with the team.

We are always looking out for new players.

We have many Pre-Season matches organised too!

Drop us a message on our Facebook page or email us at Draytonwasps@gmail.com for more information.

Bradley Cox

Drayton School Football Team (circa 1973)



It would be interesting to know what has become of these 9/10 year olds in the photograph. (June issue—Page 12).

Tim Richardson is still playing football and managing a Vets (over 55s) football team in Wellington, New Zealand where he has been living for the past 28 years.

He is a Finance Manager working for the Government Corrections Department in Wellington. He is married with three daughters who are all living in different parts of the world.

I can remember most of the lads in the photograph.

Ann Richardson (mother - also in New Zealand).

(See also letter on Page 5).

P.S. Remembered names of most of the young footballers in Mark Barlows photograph.

Paul Day Mark Selby Darren Lymer Tim Absolem

Nigel Mott

Neil Smith Tim Richardson ?? Paul Biddle

Mark Barlow Luke Hager

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GARD is a local community group formed to campaign against Thames Water's proposals to build a reservoir south-west of Abingdon.

The Water summit to be hosted by Oxfordshire County Council that was scheduled for June has been postponed until September. We will provide an update once the new date is confirmed.

GARD have been reviewing the WRSE consultation response and points to highlight at this stage include:

The Reservoir is the strategic project which had the most opposition - over 500 out of 1150 responses opposed the scheme.

Whilst WRSE appear to acknowledge our response and criticisms (GARD is mentioned 25 times compared to Ofwat's 18), they have made little attempt to address our concerns now. Many of these concerns were shared in Ofwat's view of the plan, especially on lack of detailed cost, or environmental justification, or consideration of alternatives.

WRSE state that they do not propose to provide a detailed response to the issues raised at this stage in the process but that more detailed information on the assessment of costs, benefits and potential environmental effects of the options will be made available in Autumn 2022, for the options selected in the draft regional plan, and for the alternatives. This will include a reasoned justification for the overall strategy in the draft regional plan, and for the selection of options within that strategy.

The Severn Thames Transfer was the option with the biggest support (more than one in four of responses), including much support for the transfer to be done via the Cotswold canal.

It's clear GARD and all local residents who responded to the consultation have made an impact. Thanks once again to everyone who took part.

More encouragement came from our MP, David Johnston, who spoke against the reservoir plans (and Thames Water's appalling record on sewage) in a debate in Parliament. This was covered by the Oxford Mail, and you can view the debate at <https://fb.watch/dzWlWY5PZw/>

For updates, contact details or to join GARD visit: www.gard-oxon.org.uk, Facebook: @abingdonreservoir Twitter: @GARD_OXON

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Celebrations at Drayton Village Hall Sunday 5th June 2022





Stonehill Community Garden offers something for everyone, whether you just want to relax in a beautiful natural environment or get involved in organic gardening, woodworking, cooking, forest gardening and other permaculture projects, you can drop in or stay

all day.

Stonehill is open to everyone every Wednesday, 10am – 4pm. The garden is located on Oday Hill at the northern end of Drayton just south of Abingdon.



Stonehill Community garden will be holding a series of cooking courses designed to help minimise food waste starting with an Intro course on 2 July.

Other courses include cooking with kitchen scraps, fermentation, food preservation and how to deal with gluts.

- *Introduction to Minimising Food Waste-SAT, JUL 2*
- *Gluts and Minimising Food Waste - SAT, JUL 23*
- *Introduction to Food Preservation - SAT, AUG 6*
- *Cooking with Kitchen Scraps - SAT, AUG 20*
- *Introduction to Lacto-Fermentation - SAT, SEP 10*
- **All starting at 11 am.**

For further information and directions you can go to website at <http://www.stonehillgardens.co.uk/> or email Joanna at info@stonehillgardens.co.uk

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FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATIONS

Dear Editor,

I would just like to say a big thank you to all the helpers we had on the day of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, without whom we would not have been able to run this event.

A special thank you goes to **Caroline Green** and her husband, and **Melanie Bowesman** and her brothers. What a team we made! I think that in spite of a grey and cold day, we can say that the event was a big success, and everyone who helped to make it a memorable day enjoyed themselves tremendously.

They showed their appreciation by generously donating **£213.00 to DAMASCUS**, which we raised by running races and competitions and by simply going round with a bucket.

Lawrence Vickery has kindly agreed to sell some of the left over Jubilee mugs for us, the proceeds of which will go directly to **DAMASCUS**. So if anyone who missed out on the prizes on the day would like a mug, do go along to the shop and buy one to support our worthy cause. So far, we have sold five, at £7.00 a pop, so that's another **£35** in the bucket!

Yours very sincerely,

Pervin Shahin (Parish Councillor)

theWI Last month we had a great time making small decorated cards, when shown it looked so easy. Believe me, let us loose with paper and glue and chaos takes over.

When the glue was removed we had a wonderful cream tea. Scones, choice of jams and cream it's a cup of tea.

Next month we will learn about the Watlington hoard, no samples available.

Thursday 14th July, 7.30pm Caudwell day centre, gravel lane. Please join us.

Ann Webb

Drayton Wives

Before I write the usual monthly round up I have a confession to make. One eagle eyed Drayton Wife spotted that our monthly craft and chat is the third Monday of the month NOT the fourth!!!!

Our meeting this month was about fermentation techniques by Joanna Tamburino which included the fermentation of food and drinks.

Unfortunately I couldn't be there in person but everyone said how much they enjoyed it.

So I am going to write about some interesting coffee shops that we have found on our walks as summer is just around the corner and we are now venturing off around the county. Plus if you have visitors it may give you some idea where to go.

The first one is in Henley and is the Chantry House just before the bridge at the back of the church. It is a late medieval building(1461) which is used as a church hall but on Sundays becomes a very nice coffee shop!!



Chantry House, Henley-on-Thames

A bit more local is the cafe at Stanford in the vale which we walked with the group last month and had a lovely snack after our walk. The cafe is comfortable and very friendly and it also has a good selection of cards and gifts.

My last one is the Grocer Chef at Ardington. Lovely village to walk around to see the horses and also the Parkinson garden. We shall be walking there on the 13th July and lunching in the cafe.

Lets hope we have a good summer to enjoy our beautiful countryside

Lisa Lammiman



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Hi Editor,

Please could you include these pictures from the Drayton Jubilee picnic last Sunday.



The winner of the "Guess the Weight" competition was Mark Richards and the weight was 890 Grams.



The winner of the "Guess the No. of sweets in the jar" was Rhonda Simpkin with 197!!

Anthony Bowesman-Jones took charge of the competitions.



Regards, Barbara Richards
(07818 661112)



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Dear Editor,

We would like to thank all of you who attended our Jubilee Party on the 2nd June. Thanks to the generosity of you all we raised **£500** for the **Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal**.

A special thank you to **Sienna aged six** who contributed the money she made by making & selling her own jewellery!

Best Wishes

from **Susan & Ian Brooks**

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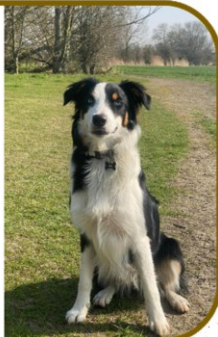
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Fun and Games on Crabtree Lane



My neighbours and I had a great day with games, tea cakes and a buffet on Crabtree Lane in celebration of the Jubilee.

Everyone had a smashing day, long to be remembered.

J Strong



On 21st May, many of you came along to the **Drayton Village Fete** held at the Village Hall. We were delighted with the number of people who joined us to enjoy the kings and queens parade, the magic shows, animal roadshows, tug of war, school performances, bouncy castle, stalls, games, food and drink, live music and so much more.

Organising and running the fete takes months of prepara-



tion, planning and hard work and we are so grateful to our FODSA members, their friends and families and our school community who helped us to run a fantastic event.

Seeing people from across the village coming together to enjoy themselves is wonderful. In addition to that, we raised an amazing **£6,800!** This will go a long way towards supporting the school.

Here are some pictures from the day.

Emma Wilson (FODSA Chair)



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Dear all,

Homes for Ukraine

A series of online events has been set up to help to support hosts, as well as a free workshop explaining the benefits available for Ukrainian families. Details are in newsletters that should be received by all host families – if you are a host family and have not received the

first newsletter, please contact me and I'll get that resolved.

Work to develop a rematching process where sponsorship arrangements break down is taking shape. Our county-wide partnership is working towards establishing a rematching team across Oxfordshire (this will not be a homelessness service) together with Asylum Welcome and this will be funded by the county council.

For general queries, housing and community support in Vale: whitehorsedc.gov.uk/ukraine

South and Vale helpline: +44 1235 422600 / 01235 422600 (press option one). Opening hours: 8.30am-5pm Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-4.30pm Fridays, Closed weekends and bank holidays.

Email: communitysupport@southandvale.gov.uk

Reservoir

The official response by Water Resources South East (WRSE) to the consultation has been released. It is notable that over 500 responses they received explicitly oppose SESRO – a chunk of these were written by you, and the weight of responses appears to be telling, with their now more circumspect stance. They haven't appreciably addressed any of our points or those raised by GARD, merely claiming that they'll provide better detail in Autumn. Possibly because addressing those points is prohibitively difficult...

The alternative of pursuing the Severn-Thames Transfer, especially by using the Cotswolds Canals, is widely supported, and not just by us and by GARD. As this can be done far quicker, provides more water, is cheaper, far less disruptive, and brings in new water to a water-stressed area, we intend to press hard on this being the best and most flexible way going forwards. Indeed, rather than environmentally devastating an area and destroying natural amenity, it improves both significantly.

Probably linked to this, Thames Water have contacted me and other Councillors directly, asking for a "water workshop" to go ahead. I've agreed and am discussing the content and other members. I'll update you when it has happened.

(I don't expect much from it, but the fact that they now feel it necessary to at least make gestures in this direction is possibly significant. Again, I am certain that this is due to the overwhelming weight of public responses).

All the best,

Andy

(Councillor—VoWHDC)



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David Johnston MP for Wantage and South Oxfordshire

I've just launched a campaign to help young people at local state schools get work experience at the great employers we have in the constituency. This was part of what I used to do when I ran charities because most work experience goes to the relatives of existing employees or clients, meaning

young people without connections struggle to get it. It's vital to get, because it gives you first understanding of the world of work, teaching you what to wear, how to interact with people, how an organisation fits together and giving you something you can put on your CV – as well as your first connections. It has almost disappeared as a result of the pandemic, so I'm leaning on the employers at Harwell and Milton Park, in particular. If your organisation can help, wherever it is, do please get in touch.

On 2 consecutive days we had debates that allowed me to raise some of the constituent issues I am most often contacted about. First, we had the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, which contains the Government's planning reforms. I am very pleased the Government has listened to those of who raised objections to the zonal system that was being suggested. It is also going to put more weight on local plans and not require a 5-year land supply if your local plan is up to date – welcome news for us.

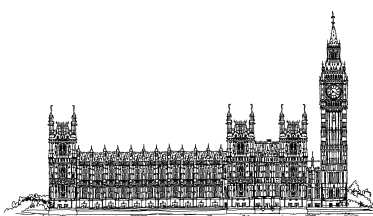
The planning process will be fully digitalised, and I asked again for hybrid meetings to be permitted (as well as measures to ensure the digitally excluded can still participate). I banged the drum again for my campaign for new houses to be built to the latest environmental standard, not the one when they got planning permission, which is often several years earlier. I also stressed there is still an issue with housing targets. South and Vale have typically exceeded their targets, but we continue to have an issue with the city of Oxford demanding the highest number of houses then hardly building any of them, meaning the burden falls on the rest of the county.

And, of course, I raised lack of infrastructure, which I did again the following day in a debate about Ofwat. The Government has just set new priorities for Ofwat, and I used a debate on these to talk about the sewage releases in Oxfordshire waters, the poor water infrastructure that often accompanies new homes and the objections to the reservoir proposal. You can find both speeches on my website/ Facebook pages.

I had a great 4 days of Platinum Jubilee celebrations including in Didcot, Faringdon, Wantage, Grove, West Hanney, Harwell and Wallingford. Along the way there was lots of food, plenty of games, Vikings, morris dancers, animals and an impressive array of classic cars – well done to everyone involved. God save our wonderful Queen.

As ever, if I can help with anything then let me know via:

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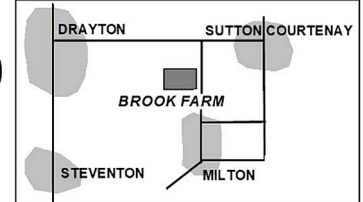
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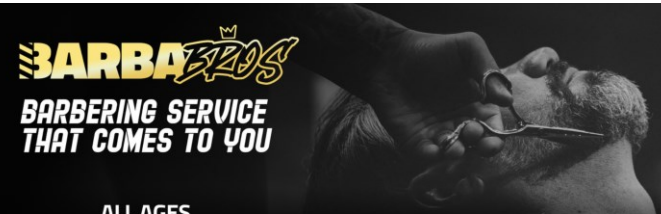


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REGULARLY OCCURRING EVENTS

Weekly in Drayton Hall unless stated otherwise

NB PLEASE – if an entry is wrong – DO tell an editor (page 2)

MONDAYS

- 2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session
- 6.00 pm Damascus Youth (see page 3)
- 7.15 pm Badminton (Private Group)
- 7.45 pm Bell-ringing (for 1 ½ hours) *St Peter's*

TUESDAYS

- 9.30 am Pilates (via Alexandra Merson 07788 248925)
- 1.45 pm Drayton Art Group (until 4 pm) *Caudwell DC*
- 2.30 pm First Tuesday Connections (1st Tuesday) *Church*

WEDNESDAYS

- 9.30 am Parent & Toddler Group (NB Temp switch from Thurs)
- 10.00 am Pebbles (Baby, Toddler, Carer group) *Church*
- 1.30 pm Whist Drive *Caudwell DC*
- 2.00 pm Drayton Wives (Last Wednesday in the month)
- 2.15 pm Badminton
- 6.30 pm Brownies (term-time / Laura 07916 459435)
- 7.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session

THURSDAYS

- 9.45 am Holy Communion (**) *St Peter's Lady Chapel*
- 11.00 am Baptist Café (to 1pm) *Caudwell DC*
- 2.00 pm Short Mat Bowling Club Session
- 2.00 pm Crafts Group (2nd Thursday – run by U3A, but it's simple to join. Call Kate for info 01235 550486)
- 5.30 pm Rainbows (girls 5 to 7 yrs)
- 7.30 pm Sequence Dancing (Brian - 01235 531701)
- 7.30 pm Women's Institute Meeting (2nd Thurs) *Caudwell DC*

FRIDAYS

- 11.00 am The Friday Club (monthly) 202466 *Caudwell DC*
NB This we heard was hoped to be restarted by now; as a monthly event (had used to be fortnightly)
- 7.15 pm ShikiDojo Martial Arts (check w Paul 07479 824887)
NB This Class HAS resumed, BUT ...
DO PLEASE check before attending!

SUNDAYS

- (**) For all the latest info re their Services (Thursday communion, & especially Sundays), **PLEASE see our St Peter's Church page**
- 6.00 pm Evening Service (see page 2) *Baptist Church*



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(Mostly) Hall Diary for JULY

All events held in Drayton Hall unless otherwise stated

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|------------|-----------|---------------|---|
| Sat | 2 | 11.30am | Private function |
| Sun | 3 | 9.30am | ANTIQUES FAIR (to 3pm) |
| Sat | 9 | 1.00pm | Private Function |
| Tues | 12 | 7.00pm | Parish Council Meeting <i>Caudwell DC</i> |
| Sat | 16 | 1.00pm | Private Function (child's party) |
| Sun | 17 | 10.30am | Private Function (child's party) |
| Mon | 18 | 5.00pm | CHRONICLE DEADLINE (see p2)
(NB Adverts by Friday 15th please!) |
| Sat | 23 | | Craft Fair (look for F'book info) |
| Sun | 24 | 1.00pm | Private Function (child's party) |

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